

Shrewsbury Commission on Disabilities
Minutes, March 9, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Vice-chairman Jerry Berrier at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room B. In attendance were Emily Gerber, Loretta Henry, and Town manager Dan Morgado. John Harris and President Gail Sokolowski were unable to attend. Also attending were approximately 12 guests from the Seven Hills Chapter of ARC. They included two adult leaders and ten youth between the ages of 16 and 20 from Shrewsbury and other nearby communities.

Mr. Berrier asked each member of the Disability Commission to introduce themselves to our guests. He then briefly described the format of our meetings and explained the purpose of the Disability Commission.

Mrs. Henry moved and Mrs. Gerber seconded a motion to approve the minutes of our February meeting. The motion passed.

Town Liaison Report: Mr. Morgado said that he has been unable to come up with ideas for improvements that he had promised at our February meeting, as he has been deeply involved in dealing with some unexpected issues during the past month. Two parking-related complaints have been received. Mr. Morgado has responded and has sent us each electronic copies of the letters he wrote, one to Wagner BMW, and the other to Trader Joe's Corporate headquarters and the landlord of Trader Joe's. Mr. Morgado left after giving his report.

Appointments: none.

Mr. Berrier next invited Eric and Joy, the leaders of the visiting ARC group, to ask questions or make comments. Eric said they would like to come back and observe future meetings. Mr. Berrier assured him that our meetings are open to the public. He explained that we follow an agenda and that any items needing attention should be brought to our attention ahead of time.

Announcements: none

Bills: none

New business:

Mrs. Gerber said a new pre-school has just been built on Floral Street, and she expressed concern that we were not made aware of it and have not had the opportunity to review it for access issues. We agreed that we should send a letter to the school informing them of our interest in accessibility.

Old business:

Mrs. Henry detailed an estimate received from her son for copying ADA Guides. We can get 100 copies on double-sided 60-weight paper for \$150.00. Mr. Berrier said he will

include this in the minutes to inform Mr. Harris and Ms. Sokolowski so that a decision can be made.

Fall Educational Program: We agreed that we would like to put on an event at the Shrewsbury Senior Center in October on the theme of Emergency Preparedness for people with disabilities and senior citizens.

Mrs. Henry will suggest it to officials at the Senior Center and try to come up with a tentative date. (Mrs. Henry later e-mailed commission members to say that Sharon Yeager is very interested in our idea. Available dates in October would be the 8th, 15th, or 22nd. Mrs. Yeager said Fridays are best, but Tuesday October 5 is also a possibility.)

Communications: None, other than letters from Mr. Morgado mentioned earlier in this document.

No phone calls, and no updates to the web site.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 13 at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Berrier invited our guests to remain for an open discussion after our formal meeting. Mrs. Henry moved and Mrs. Gerber seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Berrier